

## SECTION I—CLAIMS

### **Amendment to the Claims:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Claims 1-4, 8-16, 20-23, and 26 are amended herein. No claims are canceled. No new claims are added. Claims 1-27 remain pending in the application.

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A method for recording a test script comprising:  
providing a user interface for entering data and triggering one or more operations to process the data;  
translating the data and ~~and/or~~ operations to a business layer format;  
receiving results of the data and ~~and/or~~ operations in a business layer format;  
~~transmitting the entered data, operations and/or results in the business layer format from a test plugin at a business layer to a test control program; and~~  
storing the entered data, operations, and ~~and/or~~ results in the business layer format within a test script, the test script usable to test an instance of an application at a business layer of the application.
2. (Currently amended) The method as in claim 1 further comprising:  
converting the business layer formatted data, operations, and ~~and/or~~ results into a location-neutral or ~~and/or~~ language-neutral format prior to storing.
3. (Currently amended) The method as in claim 2 wherein the location-neutral or ~~and/or~~ language-neutral format is based on a predefined XML schema.
4. (Currently amended) The method as in claim 1 further comprising:

providing the translated data and ~~and/or~~ operations to a presentation layer, the presentation layer preparing the data and ~~and/or~~ operations according to predefined presentation logic, generating the results of the data and ~~and/or~~ operations; and providing the results to a user interface, the user interface displaying the results of the operations to a user.

5. (Original) The method as in claim 1 further comprising:

storing the entered data within a test data container rather than directly within the test script, the entered data accessible while testing the instance of the application via a command interface of the test script.

6. (Original) The method as in claim 1 wherein the user interface comprises a browser, the method further comprising:

initializing the browser with a uniform resource locator ("URL"), the URL having a first component identifying an application from which the test script is to be recorded and a second component specifying parameters for recording of the test script.

7. (Original) The method as in claim 6 wherein one of the parameters comprises a location where said test script is to be stored.

8. (Currently amended) A method for testing an application comprising:

transmitting ~~a series of~~ business layer data and associated operations to an instance of a business layer of an application, the application processing the test business layer data and associated operations to generate business layer results;

~~transmitting the business layer results from a test plugin at a business layer to a test control program;~~

receiving business layer results of the associated operations ~~by the~~ at a test control program; and

comparing the business layer results to previously-recorded business layer results to determine whether the application is functioning properly.

9. (Currently amended) The method as in claim 8 further comprising:

formatting the business layer data and ~~and/or~~ associated operations in a location-neutral or language-neutral ~~location/language-neutral~~ format prior to providing the business layer data to the instance of the business layer.

10. (Currently amended) The method as in claim 9 wherein the location-neutral or language-neutral ~~location/language-neutral~~ format is defined by an XML schema.

11. (Currently amended) The method as in claim 9 further comprising:

formatting the business layer results in a location-neutral or language-neutral ~~location/language-neutral~~ manner.

12. (Currently amended) The method as in claim 8 further comprising:

reading ~~the series of~~ business layer data and associated operations from a test script stored on a test workstation.

13. (Currently amended) A test system comprising:

a user interface to receive data and an indication of one or more specified operations to process the data;

a business layer to process the data according to the specified operations and to generate results of the operations;

a test application ~~workstation~~ to receive results of the data and ~~and/or~~ operations in a business layer format from a ~~test plugin at~~ the business layer and to transfer the data, operations, and ~~and/or~~ results of the data and operations to a test control program;

a test script to store the entered data, operations, and ~~and/or~~ results in the business layer format,

the test script usable to test an instance of an application within the business layer of the application.

14. (Currently amended) The system as in claim 13 further comprising:

a conversion module to convert the data, operations, and ~~and/or~~ results into a location-neutral or ~~and/or~~ language-neutral format prior to storing.

15. (Currently amended) The system as in claim 14 wherein the location-neutral or ~~and/or~~ language-neutral format is based on a predefined XML schema.

16. (Currently amended) The system as in claim 13 further comprising:

a presentation layer to prepare the data and ~~and/or~~ operations according to predefined presentation logic to display the data and/or operations within a graphical user interface.

17. (Original) The system as in claim 13 further comprising:

a test data container to store the entered data, the entered data accessible while testing the instance of the application via a command interface of the test script.

18. (Original) The system as in claim 13 further comprising:

a browser initialized with a uniform resource locator ("URL"), the URL having a first component identifying an application from which the test script is to be recorded and a second component specifying parameters for recording of the test script.

19. (Original) The system as in claim 18 wherein one of the parameters comprises a location on a network where said test script is to be stored.

20. (Currently amended) An article of manufacture comprising:

a machine accessible storage medium storing instructions that, when executed by a processing system, cause the processing system to perform operations comprising:

providing a user interface for entering data and triggering one or more operations to process the

data;  
translating the data and ~~and/or~~ operations to a business layer format;  
receiving results of the data and ~~and/or~~ operations in a business layer format;  
~~transmitting the entered data, operations, and and/or results in the business layer format from a~~  
~~test plugin at a business layer to a test control program; and~~  
storing the entered data, operations, and ~~and/or~~ results in the business layer format within a test  
script, the test script usable to test an instance of an application at the business layer of  
the application.

21. (Currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 20, wherein the machine accessible  
storage medium further stores instructions that, when executed by a processing system,  
cause the processing system to perform operations comprising:

converting the data, operations, and ~~and/or~~ results into a location-neutral or ~~and/or~~ language-  
neutral format prior to storing.

22. (Currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 21 wherein the location-neutral or  
~~and/or~~ language-neutral format is based on a predefined XML schema.

23. (Currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 20, wherein the machine accessible  
storage medium further stores instructions that, when executed by a processing system,  
cause the processing system to perform operations comprising:

providing the translated data and ~~and/or~~ operations to a presentation layer, the presentation layer  
preparing the data and ~~and/or~~ operations according to predefined presentation logic,  
generating the results of the data and ~~and/or~~ operations, and providing the results to a user  
interface, the user interface displaying the results of the operations ~~to a user~~.

24. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 20, wherein the machine

accessible storage medium further stores instructions that, when executed by a processing system, cause the processing system to perform operations comprising:

storing the entered data within a test data container, the entered data accessible while testing the instance of the application via a command interface of the test script.

25. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 20 wherein the user interface comprises a browser, the machine accessible storage medium further stores instructions that, when executed by a processing system, cause the processing system to perform operations comprising:

initializing the browser with a uniform resource locator ("URL"), the URL having a first component identifying an application from which the test script is to be recorded and a second component specifying parameters for recording of the test script, wherein the user interface comprises a browser.

26. (Currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 25 wherein one of the parameters comprises a location on a network where the ~~said~~ test script is to be stored.

27. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 20, wherein the machine accessible storage medium further stores instructions that, when executed by a processing system, cause the processing system to perform operations comprising:

storing data related to the user interface, the data related to the user interface usable to perform checks on the presentation level data.